

Application No.: 09/980,483Docket No.: 324-140**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1-16. (Cancelled)

17. (Currently amended) A terminal installation adapted to be connected to a telecommunication line for conveying network cells in ATM mode and comprising terminals, said ~~installation~~installing comprising terminals, a broadcast ~~means~~ arrangement for broadcasting to said terminals all the network cells received via a receive channel of said telecommunication line ~~to said terminals~~, and a collection ~~means~~ arrangement for (a) collecting cells produced by said terminals and (b) transmitting them the collected cells in an emit channel of said telecommunication line.

18. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 17, wherein said broadcast ~~means~~ arrangement comprises an input means arrangement for regenerating network cells received via said receive channel in a receive digital link, and a plurality of output ~~means connected~~ arrangements coupled to the receive digital link for ~~retransmitting~~ synchronously all cells respectively regenerated into a plurality of local loops including at least one terminal, and

said collection ~~means~~ arrangement comprises a plurality of input arrangements ~~means~~ respectively ~~connected~~ coupled to local loops for synchronizing and regenerating cells produced by ~~the respective~~ said terminals in said loops for thereby producing regenerated cells, a plurality of buffer memories for cyclically transmitting ~~said~~ the regenerated cells in an emit digital link cell

Application No.: 09/980,483Docket No.: 324-140

by cell by reading only the buffer memories ~~containing~~ including at least one cell per cycle, and an output means- arrangement for transmitting cells from said emit digital link in the emit channel.

19. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 17, wherein said broadcast ~~means- arrangement~~ comprises ~~means- a processor arrangement~~ for marking network cells from the receive channel, and said collection ~~means- arrangement~~ comprises ~~means- a processor arrangement~~ for eliminating marked network cells broadcast to the terminals for preventing retransmission of the marked network cells in order for them not to be retransmitted in said emit channel.

20. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 18, wherein said broadcast ~~means- arrangement~~ comprises ~~means- connected~~ a processor arrangement coupled between said input ~~means- arrangement~~ and said plurality of output ~~means- arrangements~~ in said receive digital link for modifying the state of a predetermined field in the header of network cells and then calculating an error control field of the header, and said collector ~~means- arrangement~~ comprises ~~means- a processor arrangement~~ for prohibiting writing of marked network cells in said buffer memories and authorizing writing only of unmarked cells produced by the terminals in said buffer memories so that only said unmarked cells are transmitted in said emit digital link.

21. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 17, comprising ~~means~~ a switch arrangement for switching ATM intercommunication cells produced by said terminals from said collection ~~means- arrangement~~ to said broadcast ~~means- arrangement~~ in order

Application No.: 09/980,483Docket No.: 324-140

to broadcast said intercommunication cells to said terminals with the received network cells.

22. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 18, comprising ~~first means~~ a detector arrangement for detecting (a) empty cell locations in said receive digital link, ~~second means for detecting and (b)~~ intercommunication cells produced by said terminals in response to predetermined first addressing fields read in cells from said emit digital link and cells produced by said terminals in response to predetermined second addressing fields read in cells from said emit digital link, and a buffer memory in which detected intercommunication cells are written in response to detection of (b), ~~under the control of said second detecting means~~ and read ~~under the control of said first detecting means~~ in response to detection of (a) for thereby introducing said intercommunication cells into said empty cell locations in said receive digital link.

23. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 22, wherein each addressing field ~~is~~ includes at least a portion of a virtual path and virtual channel identifier field in the header of an ATM cell.

24. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 22, comprising ~~means~~ a processor arrangement for (a) marking the detected intercommunication cells by modifying the state of a predetermined field in the header of said intercommunication cells and ~~means for (b)~~ calculating error control fields in said headers of the intercommunication cells.

Application No.: 09/980,483Docket No.: 324-140

25. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 24, ~~comprising~~ means wherein the processor arrangement is arranged for translating first addressing fields of said detected intercommunication cells into second addressing fields in accordance with a mapping table.

26. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 20, wherein said predetermined field ~~is~~ includes at least a portion of a flow control field.

27. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 17, wherein said broadcast ~~means- arrangement~~ and said collection ~~means- arrangement~~ are ~~connected-~~ coupled by digital local loops ~~in which for broadcasting~~ all received network cells are broadcast, at least one of the loops including at least one other set of broadcast ~~means- arrangements~~ and collection ~~means- arrangements~~.

28. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim ~~1~~ 17, wherein each terminal is ~~connected~~ coupled to a receiver ~~means- arrangement~~ for receiving at least broadcast-network cells broadcast from said broadcast arrangement, means- a processor arrangement for inserting cells produced by the terminal ~~instead of into~~ empty cell locations between the ~~received-broadcast network~~ cells, and an emitter means- arrangement for emitting said ~~received-broadcast network~~ cells and said cells produced by ~~said~~ the terminal to said collection means.

29. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 28, wherein said processor arrangement for inserting means for each terminal comprises ~~means~~ a detector arrangement for detecting broadcast network ~~received~~ cells, and for thereby prohibiting the emitting of any cell produced by said terminal during a transfer of a broadcast ~~received~~ network

Application No.: 09/980,483Docket No.: 324-140

cell between said receiver ~~means~~ arrangement and said emitter ~~means~~ arrangement, and means the detector arrangement being arranged for detecting empty cell locations between said broadcast network received cells for thereby authorizing insertion of cells produced by said terminal into detected empty cell locations.

30. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 29, wherein, if ~~the said~~ terminal is in cascade with other terminals in a digital local loop between said broadcast ~~means~~ arrangement and said collection ~~means~~ arrangement, said detector arrangement for detection of empty cell location detecting means counts is arranged to count detected empty locations modulo ~~a~~ the number of terminals in said digital local loop between said terminal and said collection ~~means~~ arrangement including said terminal, in order to authorize insertion of a cell produced by said terminal only into ~~one of an empty cell locations~~ location whose number is equal to said number of terminals.

31. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 30, wherein said detecting arrangement for the empty cell location detecting means authorizes is arranged to authorize insertion of said ~~[[a]]~~ cell produced by said terminal as a function of ~~the~~ a counted number of ~~said~~ the detected empty locations only if ~~the frequency of the said~~ empty cell locations ~~is have a frequency~~ below a predetermined threshold.

32. (Currently amended) A terminal installation according to claim 28, wherein including a switching means authorizes arrangement for authorizing reception of at least broadcast network cells by said receiver ~~means~~ arrangement and emission of cells by said emitter ~~means~~ arrangement only when while said terminal is switched on, and makes for making a direct connection for at least broadcast network cells when while said terminal is switched off.

Application No.: 09/980,483

Docket No.: 324-140

33. (New) A method of operating a terminal installation connected to a telecommunication line conveying network cells in ATM mode, the installation including terminals, a broadcast arrangement and a collection arrangement, the method comprising:

broadcasting from the broadcast arrangement to said terminals all the network cells received via a receive channel of the telecommunication line;

collecting, at the collection arrangement, cells produced by said terminals; and

transmitting the collected cells in an emit channel of the telecommunication line.

34. (New) A method of operating a terminal installation connected to a telecommunication line conveying network cells in ATM mode, the method comprising:

broadcasting from the terminal installation to terminals of the installation all the network cells received by the terminal installation via a receive channel of the telecommunication line;

collecting, at the terminal installation, cells produced by said terminals; and

transmitting from the terminal installation the collected cells in an emit channel of the telecommunication line.